

Remarks

Claims 1-10, 13, 16-17 and 19-37 are pending. Claims 11-12, 14-15, and 18 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 8-10, 13 and 16-17 are newly amended. Claims 19-37 are newly added.

Support for these claim amendments is found throughout the specification and the claims as originally filed, including pages 3, 20, 44 and 81 for claim 13, page 49 for claim 8, page 122 and originally filed claims 9-10 for newly amended claim 10, the last paragraph on page 10 and page 49 for claims 17 and 19, 21, 22, 24, 26, 30-32 and 34-37, pages 21-14, 26, 30-35, 41 and 127-128 for claims 19, 20, 23, 25, 27-29, 32 and 34-37, and pages 4, 13, 23 and 36 for claim 33. No new matter has been added.

Election

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated February 10, 2006, Applicants elect **Group II, Claims 7-13 and 13-18** insofar as they depend from one of claims 7-13, drawn to methods of identifying disease markers for prosecution on the merits, with traverse. Applicants have cancelled claims 11-12, 14-15 and 18. Applicants believe that newly added claims 19-37 also fall within the elected group and respectfully request their examination as part of Group II.

The traversal is on the grounds that it may not be an undue search burden to examine the claims of Group I as well as the claims of group II in a single application.

A petition of time is enclosed to extend the time for response from March 10, 2006 through and including June 10, 2006. However, should any fees be required to ensure consideration of this response, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account 16-0085, Reference No. 204231/2055.

Respectfully submitted,

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